

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A display apparatus comprising:
a mounted displaying means for displaying visual information;
an operating means for outputting ~~the~~ a predetermined signal ~~based on~~
to control an operation of a device;

a supporting means for supporting said ~~displaying~~ operating means, said supporting means being provided near a peripheral portion of said displaying means, said operating means being rotatable on said supporting means.

2. (Currently Amended) The display apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said operating means is set, at a time of non-operation, to a first position in which an operating surface faces a display surface of said displaying means, and set, at a time of operation, to a second position in which, rotating from said first position, ~~an operation to~~ use of said operating surface to initiate the operation is permitted.

3. (Original) The display apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said supporting means comprises an arm portion, said arm portion being housed when said operating means is set to said first position, and being

projected forward when said operating means is set to said second position so as to separate said displaying means from said operating means.

4. (Original) The display apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein, when said operating means is set to said first position, said displaying means makes a display only on a display surface which is free from overlapping with said operating means.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The display apparatus as claimed in claim 4,~~
A display apparatus comprising:

a displaying means for displaying visual information;

an operating means for outputting a predetermined signal to control an operation of a device;

a supporting means for supporting said displaying means, said supporting means being provided near a peripheral portion of said displaying means, said operating means being rotatable on said supporting means,

wherein said operating means is operable to be set in one of the following positions:

a first position in which an operating surface faces a display surface of said displaying means, and

a second position in which, rotating from said first position, use of

said operating surface to initiate the operation is permitted,

wherein, when said operating means is set to said first position, said displaying means displays the visual information only on a display surface which is free from overlapping with said operating means, and

wherein said displaying means changes a displaying scale depending on a size of the display surface available for displaying.

6. (Original) The display apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said displaying means displays the visual information in a plurality of screens, and wherein, in case it is to make a divided display when said operating means is set to said first position, the divided display is made only on the display surface free from overlapping with said operating means, and wherein, in case it is to make a divided display when said operating means is set to said second position, the divided display is made on all of the display surface.

7. (Original) The display apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said second position is a position in which the operating surface of said operating means forms an obtuse angle relative to the display surface of said displaying means.

8. (Original) The display apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an angle adjusting means for adjusting an angle to be formed

between the operating surface of said operating means and the display surface of said displaying means.

9. (New) The display apparatus as claimed in claim 1, said display apparatus being installed in an automobile.

10. (New) The display apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said operating means permits a user to operate one or more devices, the predetermined signal being output to the device being operated by the user.

11. (New) The display apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein the displaying means is used to display visual information relating to the user's operation of the device via the operating means.

12. (New) The display apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the one or more devices include at least one of an audio device, an image reproducing device, and a navigation device.

13. (New) The display apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the projected arm portion of the supporting means acts as the supporting point for the operating means when the operating means is set to the second position,

such that the operating means is connected only to the display apparatus only through the supporting point.

B/ 14. (New) The display apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the size of the display surface available for displaying corresponds to the size of the display surface not being overlapped with said operating means, and the display scale changes when the operating means switches between the first position and the second position, such that the display scale is reduced when the operating means is switched to the first position and the display scale is enlarged when the operating means is switched to the second position.

15. (New) A display method comprising:
outputting a predetermined signal based on a user's operation of a device via an operating unit;
displaying visual information at a display unit in response to the user's operation of the device; and
rotatably supporting the operating unit using a support structure near a peripheral portion of the display unit, the operating unit.

16. (New) The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising:

setting the operating unit at a first position at a time when the device is not operated by the user, wherein an operating surface of the operating unit faces the display unit when the operating unit is at the first position; and

moving the operating unit from the first position to a second position at a time the user is allowed to operate the device, wherein the operating surface is rotated so as to be accessible for use by the user to operate the device when the operating unit is at the second position.

17. (New) The method as claimed in claim 15, further comprising:

housing an arm portion in the supporting structure when the operating unit is set at the first position, the arm portion being connected to the operating unit; and

projecting the operating unit forward with the arm portion so as to separate the operating unit from the display unit, thereby moving the operating means from the first position to the second position.

18. (New) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the displaying step comprises:

displaying the visual information only on the display surface of the display unit not being overlapped by the operating unit when the operating unit is set at the first position.

19. (New) The method as claimed in claim 17, further comprising:
changing a display scale depending on a size of the display surface
available for display.

20. (New) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein
when the operating unit moves from the second position to the first
position, the changing step reduces the display scale so that the visual
information fits within the portion of the display surface not overlapped by the
operating unit; and

when the operating unit moves from the first position to the second
position, the changing step enlarges the display scale to use the entire display
surface for displaying the visual information.
